

# Ellis Island Oral Interview

National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior

Education Department  
Ellis Island Immigration Museum  
Statue of Liberty National Monument



## **Interviewee: Isadore Samet**

Date of Birth: September 23, 1898

Date of Interview: September 6, 1991

Interviewer: Paul E. Sigrist, Jr.

Immigrated from Poland in 1914 at age 16

Ellis Island Collection: EI-87

## **Isadore Samet (First Tomato):**

My brother took me over and wanted to give me a treat. So he said, "There are some peddlers around the street coming out from here. There are some tomatoes." I never had a tomato in my life. I didn't know what sort of a tomato looks like. (He laughs) So he gave me a tomato and I eat the tomato. I spit it out. I couldn't take it. (He laughs) I said, "What is this, what they give me to eat?" He started laughing, so we kept going there, no tomato.